

Planners Propose E Street Bus Route For District Study

The National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which now admits to being "open minded" on the issue of a subway system for Washington, is preparing a number of modifications and suggestions for possible inclusion in the comprehensive transportation survey now under study.

One suggestion, it was disclosed last night, is for a cross-town bus route, via E street, N.W., to connect the two great downtown centers of Federal employment in the so-called Northwest rectangle west of Seventeenth street and the Pennsylvania avenue triangle. Director of Planning, John Nolen, Jr., said it was one of several suggestions the commission has made to District officials for inclusion in any transportation survey.

As to the proposed subway itself, the Planning Commission devoted considerable time to its discussion during the monthly planning session, but officials stressed that it has taken no definite position. They said, however, that they had open minds on the subject and indicated a relaxation in former complete opposition.

Would Cut Congestion.

The proposed E street route, it was said, would be helpful in taking the load off the Potomac Park street car loop and would reduce passenger congestion at two important transfer points. These are at Fifteenth and G streets, and at Treasury, Fifteenth street and New York avenue.

For years the Planning Commission has had such a route under consideration. It was estimated more than 50,000 Federal employees work in Northwest rectangle buildings, and this area is to be the site, also, of the new Navy Department building.

Some of the bus route could be underground, it was suggested. The Planning Commission did not give details of any other suggestions it is preparing for Director of Highways, F. C. Whitehurst and Charles E. De Leuw, co-author of the subway plan. At earlier conferences, Mr. Nolen explained, the suggestions had been received "sympathetically" and now will be submitted formally.

Capt. Whitehurst yesterday outlined to the commission revised plans for major thoroughfare improvements in the District as part of the proposed postwar plan. Included in these new schedules, it was said, were a number of projects and park land improvements in the Fort, across Rock Creek Park are also under consideration.

Parkway Progress Reported.

"Very satisfactory progress" is being made in acquiring the right-of-way for the Washington-Baltimore Parkway, Commissioner Thomas H. MacDonald of the Public Roads Administration, reported. The entire route between the two cities has been surveyed and will be under Government ownership by the end of the war, it was believed.

The route from Fort George G. Meade to Baltimore will be acquired and built by Maryland, and is now under detailed engineering planning. H. J. Spelman, District engineer for the Public Roads Administration, made a progress report on the right-of-way between Washington and Fort Meade. Two pieces of privately-owned land from the District line to Greenbelt are involved in condemnation proceedings, he reported. All Governmental agencies controlling rights of way through Greenbelt, Beltsville and Fort Meade are "in agreement."

Before adjournment, the commission approved applications for the establishment of four automobile repair shops, provided no outdoor work is permitted on the premises. The proposed locations are at 69 G street, N.W.; 207 Carroll street, N.W.; Arkansas avenue and Allison street, N.W.; and Sherman avenue and Barry place, near the Washington baseball park.

World Cotton Board To Meet Here March 26

The State Department has announced that the International Cotton Advisory Committee will meet here beginning March 26. The committee, established in September, 1939, is charged with studying and reporting on problems in the world's cotton industry.

Member countries which are expected to send delegates are Brazil, Egypt, India, Mexico, Turkey, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Russia and the British and French cotton exporting colonies, and the United States.

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D. C. Red Cross Enrolls First Man As Dietitian Aide

The District Chapter of the Red Cross has enrolled its first male member in the ranks of dietitian's aides. He is Gilbert A. Foss, chief steward of the Bureau of Prisons, who recently received his certificate of graduation from the dietitian's aide course from Mrs. George Angus Garrett, chairman of the District Red Cross Volunteer Special Services.

Mr. Foss already has gone to work in his new capacity. Last Sunday morning, starting at 7 o'clock, he squeezed a crate of oranges and a crate of lemons, and carved chickens at a Washington hospital. Observers credited him with all the deftness of a professional cook.

St. Elizabeth's Asks 500-Patient Building To Replace Seven

The Budget Bureau has been asked by St. Elizabeth's Hospital for funds to construct a 500-patient building to replace seven temporary structures erected during the last war.

Dr. Winfred Overholser, hospital superintendent, in confirming the appropriation request, said the project would result in no net increase in the number of beds. It does, however, provide facilities for a laundry and a storeroom.

The official said the hospital's facilities have been taxed as a result of the war but was trying to get by with as little additional funds as possible. The hospital has been getting assistance from Navy psychiatrists and hospital corpsmen, he pointed out.

Nevertheless, the hospital's junior staff lacks six of the 12 resident psychiatrists provided for, Dr. Overholser said.

It is estimated that 7,362 patients are now being treated at St. Elizabeth's.

Dr. Daniel L. Seckinger, acting superintendent of Gallinger Hospital, said the Gallinger institution was "stretched to the breaking point in many services."

For instance, they have only four psychiatrists, although the Gallinger report of last year on the Overholser chairman said, Dr. Seckinger pointed out. They have money for a fifth but cannot find any one to take the job, he said. Next year's budget calls for six psychiatrists.

A new psychiatric unit also has been recommended by Dr. Overholser. Committee, but officials see no hope of immediate construction.

WPB Names Committee To Study Steel Shortage

An emergency committee on steel has been set up by the War Production Board to find means of coping with a critical shortage expected to develop in the next few months.

WPB Chairman, A. R. Tamm, announced today the emergency panel is headed by H. L. G. Batcher, WPB's chief of operations and head of Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Co. of Pittsburgh.

Steel demands of the armed forces and other civilian users for the second quarter of this year are about 3,000,000 tons higher than the estimated 14,000,000-ton output of carbon steel.

These demands will be whittled down by WLB, but the problem is complicated by a "carry-over" of orders for steel for steel mill additional tons not met in the first quarter. The latter orders must be filled before the new demands are met.

New Tin Salvage Drive Begun In D. C. Hotels

A new tin can salvage for hotels has been launched through cooperation of the District Salvage Committee and hotel managers.

Arthur J. Harnett, executive secretary of the Hotel Association of Washington, announced the program, which embodies collections not only from hotel kitchens, but, in the case of apartment hotels, from "permanent guests" in rooms or apartments.

Howard F. Lebaron, former San Antonio, Tex., newspaper editor, has been named New York regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, succeeding Charles T. Douds, who was fired by a two-to-one vote, effective last Friday.

The choice of Mr. Lebaron was unanimous and becomes effective immediately.

Mr. Lebaron has been regional director for the 10th region in Atlanta for the past two and one-half years.

Mr. Douds' departure from the board culminated a long and bitter fight. His continuance as regional director was opposed by Chairman Harry A. Mills and John M. Houston, but was supported by the third member, Gerard D. Reilly.

Budget Bureau Backs Free Registration Of Discharge Papers

Legislation cleared the Budget Bureau today to give District veterans one of the rights ex-servicemen enjoy in the most other communities—the privilege of registering their discharge papers free of charge with the recorder of deeds.

Every serviceman leaving the armed forces is advised to protect his discharge certificate by having it recorded, but the recorder of deeds office explained that only papers relating to real or personal property can be recorded here under present law.

Frederick S. Weaver, deputy recorder, said that daily he has to turn away a dozen or more servicemen attempting to do what they had been told. District Court officials, he said, had offered to do the recording, but were told it was out of their jurisdiction.

The Commissioners sent a bill to the Budget Bureau for clearance on December 19 and got the bill back today from the Budget Bureau following approval by the War and Navy Departments and clearance by the Justice Department.

The bill authorizes the recorder to register the discharge papers free but charge for certified copies of the documents.

A Navy spokesman explained that servicemen were urged to register the discharge certificates in case they should lose the originals and have to prove their discharge quickly. Many employers, he said, ask for proof of discharge and if the papers are not at hand the veteran faces the tedious process of applying for copies. This might take so long that he would lose his job opportunity, it was pointed out.

Daily Rationing Reminders

Meats, Fats, Etc.— Book 4, red stamps Q-5 through S-5 good through March 31; stamps T-5 through X-5 good through April 30; stamps Y-5, Z-5, A-2 through D-2 good through June 2. Each stamp worth 10 points. Next series to be validated about March 4.

Canned Goods, Etc.— Book 4, blue stamps X-5 through Z-5, A-2 and B-2 good through March 31; stamps C-2 through G-2 good through April 28; stamps H-2 through M-2 good through June 2. Each stamp worth 10 points. Next series to be validated about March 1.

Points for Fats— Your meat dealer will pay two ration points for each pound of waste kitchen fats you turn in.

Sugar— Book 4, sugar stamp 34 good for 5 pounds through February 28. Stamp 35 valid for 5 pounds through June 2.

Gasoline— A-14 coupons valid for 4 gallons each through March 21. B-5, C-5, B-6 and C-6 coupons good for 5 gallons each.

Shoes— Airplane stamps 1, 2 and 3. In Book No. 3 good indefinitely for one pair of shoes each.

Fuel Oil— Periods one, two, three and four coupons good for 10 gallons per unit through heating year. Period five coupons become valid March 1. Old period four and five coupons from last winter good through year. Consumers in this area should not use more than 75 per cent of their ration as of today.

Degree days— Total for month, 639; total for season to date, 3,478; normal for season to date, 3,353.

Outstanding Home Values

Rollingwood—\$22,950
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Home, 100-ft. frontage with large oak trees. First floor living, dining rooms, exceptionally large, with bay windows, large screened porch, de luxe kitchen, large bedroom, Hollywood bath. Second floor, 3 bedrooms, large closets, beautiful bath. Large recreation room with fireplace, automatic heat. Venetian blinds, attached 2-car garage.

Wakefield—\$24,950
Beautiful home, corner lot, 70 ft. by 100 ft., 3 blocks from Connecticut ave. Home distance from Woodrow Wilson, Alice Deal, Ben M. School; central brick Colonial living room, 2nd fl., large dining room, de luxe kitchen, breakfast room, 3 large bedrooms, 2 beautiful tiled baths, brick attached garage; beautiful shrubbery, trees, recreation room, maid's room with bath, oil heat.

Bethesda, Md.—\$12,950
Large brick home, living, dining rooms, modern kitchen, screened porch, built-in garage, 3 bedrooms, tiled bath; gas heat; large lot, trees. Vacant.

Bethesda, Md.—\$12,950
Beautiful brick home on lot 5x100, large living, dining rooms, de luxe kitchen, 1/2 bath, porch; 2nd floor, 3 bedrooms, tile bath with shower, porch; gas heat; only 3 yrs. old. In sight of grammar school.

Chevy Chase, Md.—\$12,500
Beautiful brick home, large living, dining rooms, modern kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2nd bath; gas heat; large lot; vacant March 15th; near shopping, transportation.

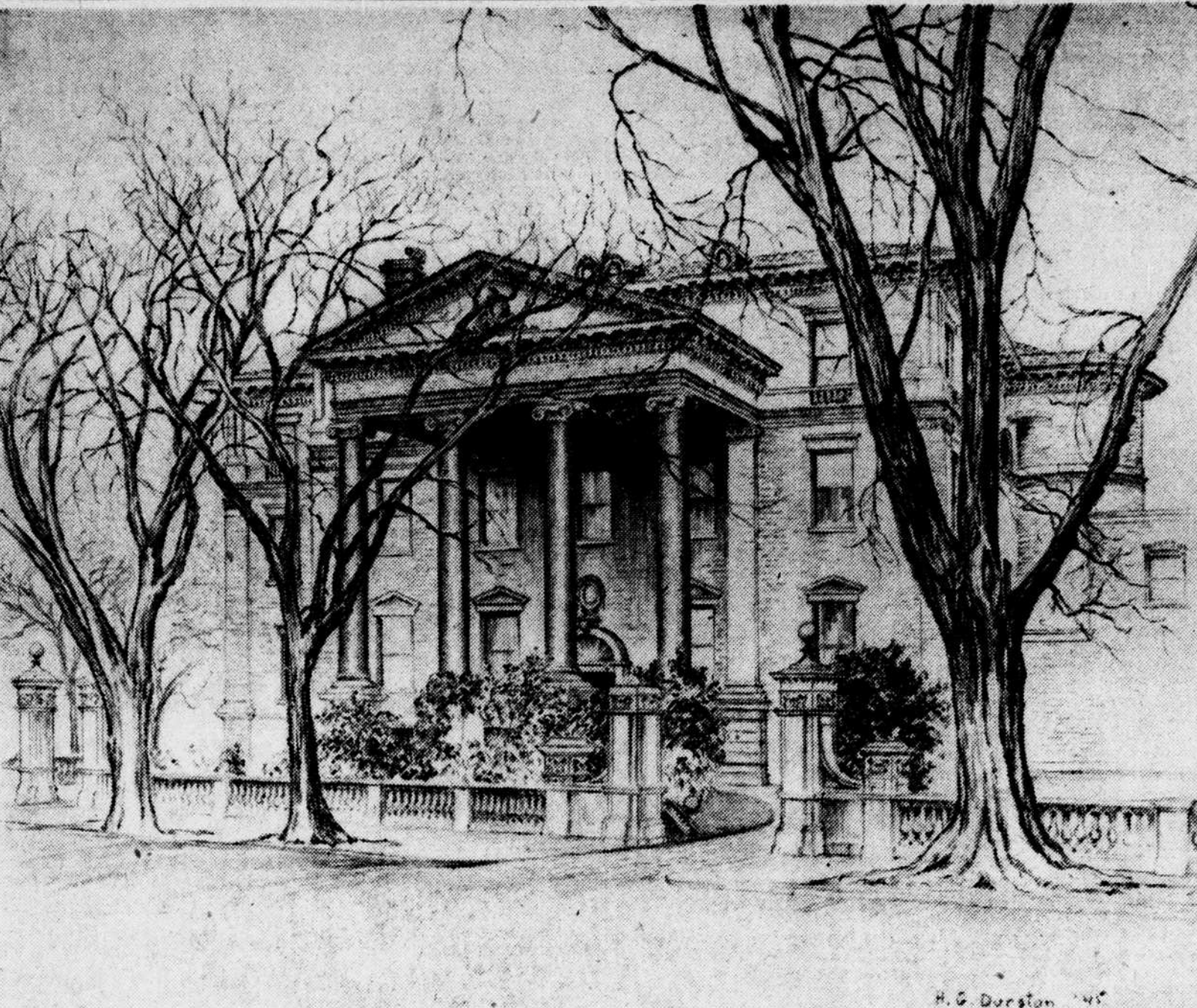
Mr. Pleasant, D. C.—Only \$13,950
Beautiful home, detached, 1st floor, reception hall, living, dining rooms, modern kitchen, 2 bedrooms, tile bath; 2nd floor, 3 bedrooms, tile bath; oil heat; garage, 7,000 sq. ft. in yard; near park road.

Brick Colonial—\$15,950
Bethesda, Md.—Large living, dining rooms; modern kitchen, bedroom, 1/2 bath; 2nd floor, 3 bedrooms, tile bath; tile bath; recreation room, built-in garage; gas air conditioned.

Mr. Vernon Colonial Brick \$29,500
Chevy Chase, Md.—First floor, large living, dining rooms, with mahogany paneled walls; bedroom, tile bath; 2nd floor, 3 bedrooms, tile bath; oil heat; recreation room, built-in garage; gas air conditioned.

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THE LEITER MANSION—This palatial home at 1500 New Hampshire avenue N.W., now occupied by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, will be torn down after the war to make way for a hotel. Until last month it was the property of one of the most colorful families in Washington society, the Leiters. Built by Levi Zeigler Leiter, financier, it became even more widely known during the lifetime of his son, the late Joseph Leiter, capitalist, "wheat king" and at one time president of the Washington Gas Light Co. The late Mrs. Joseph Leiter gave famous parties and organized the fashionable "Dancing Class" in the huge ballroom. Rented to the Government in 1941, the mansion was sold to Alvin C. Aubinoe, architect, and the postwar site for a hotel, the Dupont Plaza, by Thomas Leiter and Mrs. Charles Thomas Clagett, Jr., the surviving Leiter children. Prominent residents of the Dupont Circle area protested the hotel project before the Zoning Commission and were successful in blocking proposed rezoning of the area to permit a building 90 feet high to have the same amount of yard space as a building 60 feet high. The mansion with its towering columns was sketched by Helen Gatch Durston.

Mae West Gives Special Show For Servicemen

The Red Cross thought it would be nice if Mae West, who is in town on business, would drop in at some of the service hospitals and say hello to the boys. Meredith Howard, who is in charge of entertainment for the Red Cross in this area, asked Miss West if she would do it.

Miss West said she had a better idea. "You just tell the boys to come up and see me some time—tomorrow afternoon, let's say—and I'll put on a special show for them." That was Thursday noon. Yesterday, 1,600 servicemen from all the nearby hospitals and camps and from the British, French and Chinese missions turned up at the National Theater to see Catherine West "Great" as Miss West's guests.

Damages Are Refused In Hair Loss Suit

A District Court jury yesterday found Mrs. Dorothy Barksdale, of the first block of Seventh street S.E., was not entitled to any damages for alleged loss of hair while getting a permanent wave in a beauty parlor in the 300 block of Pennsylvania avenue S.E.

The defendant, Mrs. Inez I. Swick, denied Mrs. Barksdale suffered any injury or loss of hair as a result of getting the permanent wave.

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Division of District's Highway Aid Analyzed

The Associated General Contractors of America estimated today that out of \$5,960,000 due the District under the \$500,000,000 Federal aid fund for a three-year postwar highway program, \$1,550,000 would be for "on-site labor," \$2,622,000 for materials and \$1,788,000 for other expenses.

Under the program, it was explained, the \$500,000,000 in Federal money is to be apportioned among the States each year on a 50-50 matching basis, thus providing approximately \$1,000,000,000 annually for the national program.

As to the spread of business activity resulting from the program, the contractors reported that business transactions involved in handling and processing materials and equipment used in road construction would approximate three times the total highway expenditure, which would mean about \$3,000,000,000 each year during the three-year period of the program.

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Committee Sets Stage For Red Cross Drive Opening Thursday

Workers for the 1945 Red Cross War Fund campaign, opening next Thursday, now have been almost completely organized throughout the city, drive headquarters announced today.

Two meetings were held yesterday in preparation for the month-long campaign, one for theater officials at the Statler Hotel and one for the special gifts section at the United States Chamber of Commerce.

The special gifts section, of which Paul E. Schorb is chairman, announced a \$30,000 advance gift from the Potomac Electric Power Co. A special unit, under Mrs. David P. Pinney, also announced that one anonymous giver had increased his contribution of \$3,000 last year to \$6,000 this year.

Hero Gives Thanks.
A Medical Corps man wounded on Guam, who later received so much blood that he feels "related" to every one who ever donated blood to the Red Cross, thanked the luncheon meeting at the Chamber of Commerce for the efforts of the organization on behalf of servicemen. After a bullet had struck him as he finished administering first aid to another soldier, Pvt. Kenneth Dietz, 3d of Pittsburgh, now at Walter Reed Hospital, he said he was given four bottles of blood plasma at the same time. On the trip to a base hospital he received seven more pints.

Another serviceman, Seaman (First Class) Everett Keffey, 21, of Shillington, Pa., described being blown 150 feet off his ship and fracturing his leg on D day. Red Cross aides and Gray Ladies made life as comfortable as possible during his convalescence in England and more recently at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, he said.

The special gifts section has completed about one-third of its soliciting and has raised about one-third of the anticipated amount, Daniel J. Callahan, Jr., vice chairman, said.

Praised for Record.
Participants of theaters in Metropolitan Washington in the campaign was planned at the Statler luncheon, attended by Samuel H. Kauffman, chairman of the 1945 campaign, and by N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO Pictures. A. J. Brylawski, vice president of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America, presided.

Lt. Ferdinand Seuhle, with 3d Service Command headquarters in Baltimore, praised the brilliant wartime record of the Red Cross.